City of Buena Park
Water Department

# 2025 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

Este informe contiene información importante sobre su agua potable. Traducirlo, o hablar con alguien que lo entienda.

该报告包含有关您的饮用水的重要信息。翻译一下，或与理解它的人交谈

이 보고서에는 식수에 관한 중요한 정보가 포함되어 있습니다. 번역해 보세요, 아니면 이해해주는 사람이랑 얘기해봐

Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Dịch nó, hoặc nói chuyện với người hiểu nó

يحتوي هذا التقرير على معلومات هامة حول مياه الشرب الخاصة بك. ترجمها، أو التحدث مع شخص يفهم ذلك

このレポートには、飲料水に関する重要な情報が含まれています。それを翻訳して、またはそれを理解している人に相談してください

## Your Water Quality Report

Since 1990 the Buena Park Water Department has been providing an annual Water Quality Report to its customers. This year's report covers drinking water quality testing and reporting for 2025. Your City of Buena Park Water Department vigilantly safeguards its water supply, and as in years past, the water delivered to your home meets the quality standards required by federal and state regulatory agencies. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Division of Drinking Water (DDW) are the agencies responsible for establishing and enforcing drinking water quality standards. In some cases, the City goes beyond what is required by testing for unregulated chemicals that may have known health risks but do not have drinking water standards. For example, the Orange County Water District (OCWD), which manages the groundwater basin, and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDSC), which supplies treated imported surface water to the City, test for unregulated chemicals in our water supply. Unregulated chemical monitoring helps U.S. EPA and DDW determine where certain chemicals occur and whether new standards need to be established for those chemicals to protect public health.

Through drinking water quality testing programs carried out by OCWD for groundwater, MWDSC for treated surface water, and the City for the water distribution system, your drinking water is constantly monitored from source to tap for regulated and unregulated constituents. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, is more than a year old.

## Sources of Supply

Orange County's water supplies are a blend of groundwater managed by Orange County Water District (OCWD) and water imported from Northern California and the Colorado River by the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) via the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDSC). Groundwater comes from a natural underground aquifer that is replenished with water from the Santa Ana River, local rainfall, and imported water. The groundwater basin is 350 square miles and lies beneath north and central Orange County from Irvine to the Los Angeles County border and from Yorba Linda to the Pacific Ocean. More than 20 cities and retail water districts draw from the basin to provide water to homes and businesses.

## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## We Invite You to Learn More About Your Water's Quality

For information about this report, or your water quality in general, please contact Mark Stephenson at (714) 562-3655. The Buena Park City Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in Council Chambers in the City of Buena Park. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

## Source Water Assessment

### Imported (MWDSC) Water Assessment

Every five years, MWDSC is required by the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) to examine possible sources of drinking water contamination in its State Water Project and Colorado River source waters. The most recent surveys for MWDSC's source waters are the Colorado River Watershed Sanitary Survey – 2022 Update and the State Water Project Watershed Sanitary Survey – 2021 Update. Water from the Colorado River is considered to be most vulnerable to contamination from recreation, urban/stormwater runoff, increasing urbanization in the watershed, and wastewater. Water supplies from Northern California's State Water Project are most vulnerable to contamination from urban/stormwater runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation, and wastewater.

U.S. EPA also requires MWDSC to complete a source water assessment (SWA) that uses information collected in the watershed sanitary surveys. MWDSC completed its SWA in December 2002. The SWA is used to evaluate the vulnerability of water sources to contamination and helps determine whether more protective measures are needed. A copy of the most recent summary of the watershed sanitary survey or the SWA can be obtained by calling MWDSC at (800) CALL-MWD (800-225-5693).

### Groundwater Assessment

An assessment of the drinking water sources for the City was completed in December 2002. The groundwater sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with detected contaminants: body shops, chemical/petroleum processing/storage, electrical/electronic manufacturing, gas stations, historic gas stations, known contaminant plumes, machine shops, metal plating/finishing/fabricating, photo processing/printing, repair shops, sewer collection systems, and wastewater treatment and disposal facilities. A copy of the complete assessment is available at State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, 2 MacArthur Place, Suite 150, Santa Ana, CA 92707. You may request a summary of the assessment by contacting the City at (714) 562-3655.

## Quality Water is Our Priority

Turn the tap and the water flows, as if by magic. Or so it seems. The reality is considerably different. Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers is a scientific and engineering feat that requires considerable effort and talent to ensure the water is always there, always safe to drink. Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment and distribution operators must be licensed. Our licensed water professionals have an understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, and engineering. Some of the tasks they complete on a regular basis include:

- Operating and maintaining equipment to purify and clarify water;
- Monitoring and inspecting machinery, meters, gauges, and operating conditions;
- Conducting tests and inspections on water and evaluating the results;
- Documenting and reporting test results and system operations to regulatory agencies; and
- Serving our community through customer support, education, and outreach.

So the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who stand behind every drop.

## About Lead in Tap Water

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Buena Park Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Buena Park Water Department at (714) 562-3655. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

## Investing in Future Supply Sources

For years, Orange County has enjoyed an abundant, seemingly endless supply of high-quality water. However, as water demand continues to increase statewide, we must be even more conscientious about our water supply and maximize the efficient use of this precious natural resource. OCWD and MWDOC work cooperatively to evaluate new and innovative water management and supply development programs, including water reuse and recycling, wetlands expansion, recharge facility construction, ocean and brackish water desalination, and surface storage and water use efficiency programs. These efforts are helping to enhance long-term countywide water reliability and quality.

A healthy water future for Orange County rests on finding and developing new water supplies, as well as protecting and improving the quality of the water that we have today. Your local and regional water agencies are committed to making the necessary investments today in new water management projects to ensure an abundant and high-quality water supply for our future.

## Lead Service Line Inventory

The City of Buena Park is committed to providing safe drinking water to all its customers and follows all federal and state regulations. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), enforces the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR). The purpose of the LCR is to protect public health by reducing lead and copper levels in drinking water.

One recent change to the LCR, called the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), is the requirement for all large public water purveyors to complete a lead service line inventory (LSLI). This inventory had to be completed by October 16, 2024. The City of Buena Park completed the inventory through a combination of document review and physically inspecting every service line connection in the water system. Through our LSLI process, the City has determined that there are no lead or galvanized service lines requiring replacement in the distribution system. The City is developing an interactive map to show the results of the LSLI. Please visit buenapark.com/city_departments/public_works/utilities/water/lead_service_lines.php for more information.

# 2025 City of Buena Park Drinking Water Quality

For more information about the health effects of the listed contaminants in the following tables, call the U.S. EPA hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## 2025 CITY OF BUENA PARK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WATER QUALITY

| | MCL (MRDL/ MRDLG) | AVERAGE AMOUNT | RANGE OF DETECTIONS | MCL VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Disinfection Byproducts** | | | | | |
| **Chlorine Residual** (ppm) | (4 / 4) | 0.86 | 0 - 3.2 | No | Disinfectant Added for Treatment |
| **Haloacetic Acids** (ppb) | 60 | 7 | ND - 7.3 | No | Byproducts of Chlorine Disinfection |
| **Total Trihalomethanes** (ppb) | 80 | 28 | ND - 33 | No | Byproducts of Chlorine Disinfection |
| **Aesthetic Quality** | | | | | |
| **Color** (color units) | 15* | 31 | ND - 120 | n/a | Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Odor** (threshold odor number) | 3* | 1 | ND - 2 | n/a | Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Turbidity** (ntu) | 5* | 0.17 | ND - 5.2 | n/a | Erosion of Natural Deposits |

Eight locations in the distribution system are tested quarterly for total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids; twenty locations are tested monthly for color, odor and turbidity.

**MRDL** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; **MRDLG** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal; **n/a** = not applicable

*Contaminant is regulated by a secondary standard to maintain aesthetic qualities (taste, odor, color).

## LEAD AND COPPER ACTION LEVELS AT RESIDENTIAL TAPS

| | ACTION LEVEL (AL) | PUBLIC HEALTH GOAL | 90TH PERCENTILE VALUE | RANGE OF DETECTIONS | SITES EXCEEDING AL / NUMBER OF SITES | AL VIOLATION? | TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Copper** (ppm) | 1.3 | 0.3 | 0.17 | ND - 0.29 | 0 / 31 | No | Corrosion of Household Plumbing |
| **Lead** (ppb) | 15 | 0.2 | ND | ND | 0 / 31 | No | Corrosion of Household Plumbing |

Every three years, at least 30 residences are tested for lead and copper at-the-tap. The most recent set of samples was collected in 2024. Lead was not detected in any home. Copper was detected in sixteen homes, none of which exceeded the regulatory action level. A regulatory action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

# Drinking Water Definitions

### What are water quality standards?

Drinking water standards established by U.S. EPA and DDW set limits for substances that may affect consumer health or aesthetic qualities of drinking water.

The tables in this report show the following types of water quality standards:

- **Maximum contaminant level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible.
- **Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
- **Primary drinking water standard:** MCLs for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.
- **Regulatory action level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

### What is a water quality goal?

In addition to mandatory water quality standards, U.S. EPA and DDW have set voluntary water quality goals for some contaminants. Water quality goals are often set at such low levels that they are not achievable in practice and are not directly measurable. Nevertheless, these goals provide useful guideposts and direction for water management practices.

The tables in this report include three types of water quality goals:

- **Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by U.S. EPA.
- **Maximum residual disinfectant level goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Public health goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California EPA.

### How are contaminants measured?

Water is sampled and tested throughout the year. Contaminants are measured in:

- Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
- Parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

## 2025 CITY OF BUENA PARK LOCAL GROUNDWATER QUALITY AND IMPORTED METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT WATER QUALITY

| CHEMICAL | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | AVERAGE GROUNDWATER AMOUNT | AVERAGE IMPORTED MWD AMOUNT | RANGE OF DETECTIONS | MCL VIOLATION? | TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Radiologicals - Tested in 2023 and 2025** | | | | | | | |
| **Combined Radium** (pCi/L) | 5 | (0) | ND | ND | ND - 1.2 | No | Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Gross Alpha Particle Activity** (pCi/L) | 15 | (0) | ND | ND | ND - 5 | No | Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Gross Beta Particle Activity** (pCi/L) | 50 | (0) | NR | ND | ND - 6 | No | Decay of Natural and Man-made Deposits |
| **Uranium** (pCi/L) | 20 | 0.43 | 3.6 | 1 | ND - 6.6 | No | Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Organic Chemicals - Tested in 2025** | | | | | | | |
| **1,1-Dichloroethene** (ppb) | 6 | 10 | ND | ND | ND - 2.1 | No | Discharge From Industrial Chemical Factories |
| **Inorganic Chemicals - Tested in 2024 and 2025** | | | | | | | |
| **Aluminum** (ppm) | 1 | 0.6 | ND | 0.058 | ND - 0.082 | No | Treatment Process Residue, Natural Deposits |
| **Arsenic** (ppb) | 10 | 0.004 | 2.4 | ND | ND - 5.5 | No | Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Barium** (ppm) | 1 | 2 | ND | 0.13 | ND - 0.13 | No | Refinery Discharge, Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Bromate** (ppb) | 10 | 0.1 | NR | 2.4 | ND - 8.4 | No | Byproduct of Drinking Water Ozonation |
| **Fluoride** (ppm) naturally-occurring | 2 | 1 | 0.53 | NR | 0.4 - 0.89 | No | Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Fluoride** (ppm) treatment-related | 2 | 1 | NR | 0.7 | 0.6 - 0.8 | No | Water Additive for Dental Health |
| **Hexavalent Chromium** (ppb) | 10 | 0.02 | 0.62 | ND | ND - 1.57 | No | Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Nitrate as N** (ppm) | 10 | 10 | 1 | ND | ND - 4.2 | No | Agriculture Runoff and Sewage |
| **Nitrate+Nitrite as N** (ppm) | 10 | 10 | 1 | ND | ND - 4.2 | No | Agriculture Runoff and Sewage |
| **Perchlorate** (ppb) | 6 | 1 | ND | ND | ND - 3.5 | No | Industrial Waste Discharge |
| **Selenium** (ppb) | 50 | 30 | ND | ND | ND - 11 | No | Discharge from Industrial Activities; Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| **Secondary Standards* - Tested in 2025** | | | | | | | |
| **Aluminum** (ppb) | 200* | 600 | ND | 58 | ND - 82 | No | Treatment Process Residue, Natural Deposits |
| **Chloride** (ppm) | 500* | n/a | 41 | 92 | 20 - 99 | No | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Color** (color units) | 15* | n/a | ND | 1 | ND - 10 | No | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Manganese** (ppb) | 50* | n/a | 9.6 | ND | ND - 45 | No | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Specific Conductance** (µmho/cm) | 1,600* | n/a | 643 | 873 | 502 - 987 | No | Substances that Form Ions in Water |
| **Sulfate** (ppm) | 500* | n/a | 90 | 182 | 59 - 218 | No | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Total Dissolved Solids** (ppm) | 1,000* | n/a | 397 | 545 | 296 - 625 | No | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Turbidity** (ntu) | 5* | n/a | ND | ND | ND - 0.25 | No | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |

## 2025 CITY OF BUENA PARK LOCAL GROUNDWATER QUALITY AND IMPORTED METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT WATER QUALITY (CONTINUED)

| CHEMICAL | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | AVERAGE GROUNDWATER AMOUNT | AVERAGE IMPORTED MWD AMOUNT | RANGE OF DETECTIONS | MCL VIOLATION? | TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unregulated Chemicals - Tested in 2025** | | | | | | | |
| **Alkalinity, total as CaCO3** (ppm) | Not Regulated | n/a | 185 | 108 | 93 - 195 | n/a | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Boron** (ppm) | NL=1 | n/a | ND | 0.13 | ND - 0.23 | n/a | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Calcium** (ppm) | Not Regulated | n/a | 60 | 56 | 11 - 114 | n/a | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Hardness, total as CaCO3** (ppm) | Not Regulated | n/a | 207 | 236 | 44 - 376 | n/a | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Hardness, total** (grains per gallon) | Not Regulated | n/a | 12 | 14 | 2.6 - 22 | n/a | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Magnesium** (ppm) | Not Regulated | n/a | 14 | 22 | 3.4 - 25 | n/a | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Perfluoro Hexane Sulfonic Acid** (ppt) | NL = 3** | n/a | ND | ND | ND - 4.8 | n/a | Industrial Discharge |
| **Perfluoro Octanoic Acid** (ppt) | NL = 5.1** | 0.007 | ND | ND | ND - 4 | n/a | Industrial Discharge |
| **Perfluoro Octane Sulfonic Acid** (ppt) | NL = 6.5** | 1 | ND | ND | ND - 7.9 | n/a | Industrial Discharge |
| **pH** (pH units) | Not Regulated | n/a | 8 | 8.3 | 7.9 - 8.3 | n/a | Hydrogen Ion Concentration |
| **Potassium** (ppm) | Not Regulated | n/a | 2.7 | 4.3 | 2 - 4.8 | n/a | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Sodium** (ppm) | Not Regulated | n/a | 59 | 88 | 39 - 132 | n/a | Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| **Total Organic Carbon** (ppm) | TT | n/a | 0.16 | 2.4 | ND - 2.6 | n/a | Various Natural and Man-made Sources |
| **Vanadium, Total** (ppb) | NL = 50 | n/a | 2.1 | ND | ND - 4.3 | n/a | Erosion of Natural Deposits; Industrial Discharge |

**ppb** = parts-per-billion; **ppm** = parts-per-million; **ppt** = parts per trillion; **pCi/L** = picoCuries per liter; **ntu** = nephelometric turbidity units; **µmho/cm** = micromhos per centimeter; **NR** = not required to be tested; **ND** = not detected; **MCL** = Maximum Contaminant Level; **(MCLG)** = federal MCL Goal; **PHG** = California Public Health Goal; **NL** = Notification Level; **n/a** = not applicable; **TT** = treatment technique

* Contaminant is regulated by a secondary standard.

** Effective October 29, 2025, the NLs for perfluoro hexane sulfonic acid, perfluorooctanoic acid, and perfluoro octane sulfonic acid were revised to 3.0 ppt, 4.0 ppt, and 4.0 ppt, respectively.

| METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIEMER FILTRATION PLANT | TREATMENT TECHNIQUE | TURBIDITY MEASUREMENTS | TT VIOLATION? | TYPICAL SOURCE IN DRINKING WATER |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Turbidity - combined filter effluent** | | | | |
| 1) Highest single turbidity measurement (NTU) | 0.3 | 0.05 | No | Soil Runoff |
| 2) Percentage of samples less than or equal to 0.3 NTU | 95% | 100% | No | Soil Runoff |

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water, an indication of particulate matter, some of which might include harmful microorganisms. Low turbidity in Metropolitan's treated water is a good indicator of effective filtration. Filtration is called a **"treatment technique" (TT)**. A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water that are difficult and sometimes impossible to measure directly.

**NTU** = nephelometric turbidity units

## UNREGULATED CHEMICALS REQUIRING MONITORING

| CHEMICAL | NOTIFICATION LEVEL | PHG | AVERAGE GROUNDWATER | AVERAGE IMPORTED MWD AMOUNT | RANGE OF DETECTIONS | MOST RECENT SAMPLING DATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Lithium** (ppb) | n/a | n/a | ND | 22 | ND - 37 | 2025 |
| **Perfluoro Hexane Sulfonic Acid** (ppt)*** | 3** | n/a | ND | ND | ND - 3.9 | 2025 |
| **Perfluoro Octane Sulfonic Acid** (ppt)*** | 6.5** | 1 | ND | ND | ND - 6.8 | 2025 |

*** Perfluoro Hexane Sulfonic Acid and Perfluoro Octane Sulfonic Acid are also included as part of the unregulated chemicals requiring monitoring.

## Drinking Water Contaminants

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## Cross Connections

In cooperation with the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water, the Buena Park Water Department's major goal is to ensure the distribution of a safe and potable water supply to all domestic water users. In order for the Buena Park Water Department to achieve this goal, a Cross-Connection Control Management Plan (CCCMP) is being developed with an effective date of July 1, 2025. The Buena Park Water Department's CCCMP was developed pursuant to the requirements set forth in the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH) which replaced State of California Administrative Code Title 17, Sections §7583 through §7605 and applies to all State of California Public Water Systems, as defined in California's Health and Safety Cost (CHSC, section 116275(h)).

## Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products in Drinking Water

Disinfection of drinking water was one of the greatest public health advancements of the 20th century, significantly reducing the spread of waterborne diseases caused by bacteria and viruses. Today chlorine and chloramines are commonly used disinfectants that ensure safe drinking water.

### How Disinfection Works

- Chlorine is added at the water source (groundwater wells or treatment plants) to kill harmful microorganisms.
- Residual chlorine remains in the distribution system to prevent bacterial growth in the pipes that carry water to homes and businesses.
- Chloramines, a combination of chlorine and ammonia, are also used as a disinfectant and help reduce certain by-products.

### Disinfection By-Products and Regulations

While effective, chlorine and chloramines can react with naturally occurring materials in water, forming disinfection by-products (DBPs), which may pose health risks. The most common DBPs are trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs).

To protect public health, the U.S. EPA regulates DBPs under the Safe Drinking Water Act:

- In 1979 the U.S. EPA set the maximum allowable total THM level at 100 parts per billion (ppb).
- In 2002 the Stage 1 Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Rule lowered the limit to 80 ppb and added HAAs to the list of regulated chemicals.
- In 2006 the Stage 2 Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Rule introduced further monitoring and control measures. Full compliance began in 2012.

Your drinking water meets or exceeds all state and federal standards, with rigorous monitoring in place. We regularly test for DBPs and adjust treatment methods to maintain a safe balance between disinfection and by-product control.

### Important Considerations

- **Fish and aquatic pets:** Chloramines can be toxic to fish and should be removed from water used in aquariums.
- **Kidney dialysis patients:** Chloramines must be filtered from water used in dialysis treatment—consult your health-care provider.

**For more information on water quality and regulations, visit:**

- **U.S. EPA water regulations:** epa.gov/sdwa
- **SWRCB:** waterboards.ca.gov

Your drinking water is treated, tested, and monitored to ensure it remains safe and reliable for you and your community.

## Drinking Water Fluoridation

Fluoride has been added to U.S. drinking water supplies since 1945 to help prevent tooth decay. As of today, the majority of public water suppliers in the country, including MWDSC, fluoridate their water. MWDSC began adding fluoride in December 2007, complying with all provisions of California's fluoridation system requirements. Fluoride levels in drinking water are regulated in California and limited to a maximum of 2 parts per million (ppm). Some local groundwater supplies naturally contain fluoride, but they are not supplemented with additional fluoride. For more details on water fluoridation, please visit:

- **U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):** cdc.gov/fluoridation or (800) 232-4636
- **State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water:** waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.html
- **American Dental Association:** ada.org
- **American Water Works Association:** awwa.org

For specific inquiries about MWDSC's fluoridation program, please contact MWDSC directly at (800) 225-5693.

## Cryptosporidium

Cryptosporidium is a microscopic organism that originates from animal and human waste and may be present in surface water. When ingested, it can cause diarrhea, fever, and other gastrointestinal symptoms. In 2025, the MWDSC tested for Cryptosporidium and did not detect its presence in any water after it had been treated. If Cryptosporidium is ever detected in drinking water, it is effectively removed through a combination of sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection.

The U.S. EPA and the CDC provide guidelines on how to reduce the risk of infection from Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants. For more information, contact the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visit epa.gov/safewater.

## Arsenic Advisory

While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing it from drinking water. The U.S. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**City of Buena Park Water Department**
6650 Beach Blvd. • Buena Park, CA 90620 • (714) 562-3655
**buenapark.com/city_departments/public_works/utilities/water**